

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

In accordance with U.S. Patent and Trademark Office practice, proposed drawing changes as a REPLACEMENT SHEET is attached, wherein Applicant proposes to amend the drawings in the above-identified application as follows:

Please amend Figure 18 by deleting “Fig. 18” and replacing “(a)” with --Fig. 18(a)-- and by “(b)” with --Fig. 18(b)--;

Please amend Figure 20 by deleting “Fig. 20” and replacing “(a)” with --Fig. 20(a)-- and by “(b)” with --Fig. 20(b)--;

Please amend Figure 25 by deleting “Fig. 25” and replacing “(a)” with --Fig. 25(a)-- and by “(b)” with --Fig. 25(b)--;

Please amend Figure 26 by deleting “Fig. 26” and replacing “(a)” with --Fig. 26(a)-- by “(b)” with --Fig. 26(b)-- and by “(c)” with --Fig. 26(c)--;

Please amend Figure 27 by deleting “Fig. 27” and replacing “(a)” with --Fig. 27(a)-- and by “(b)” with --Fig. 27(b)--;

No new matter has been added. Approval is earnestly requested.

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment prior to examination is respectfully requested. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 3, 6, 16, 17, 25, 26 and 31 have been amended to eliminate improper multiple dependencies from the claims and thus place the application in better form for initial review and consideration by the Examiner. This Preliminary Amendment is also made to amend the drawings.

No new matter has been added.

Prompt and favorable examination of this application, as amended by this preliminary amendment, is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any suggestions for placing this application in even better form, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: December 8, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By \_\_\_\_\_  
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